SOUTH VIET NAM In Struggle

CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION

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DAZIMINA HANOI

19, Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi, DRVN
and all RSVN Embassies,
Information Bureaux in
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editorial

The invincible strength *of revolutionary power*

TO seize power is a necessity and a crowning of any revolution.

Through long years of militancy and countless sacrifices, through the seizing and re-seizing of power in each village, the South Vietnamese revolution has been able to establish the people's power at the central level — the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the RSVN — and lick into shape its apparatus at lower echelons. This political event marked the growth of the revolution and a turning point in the South Vietnamese people's fight against American aggression.

Over the last two years, the Nixon administration has been bent on "Vietnamizing the war," that is, in essence, prolonging US aggression and maintaining US neo-colonialist domination in South Viet Nam. It has made every effort to consolidate the quisling administration and re-equip the native army on its payroll to use them as instruments for its war strategy. At the same time, Washington has been feverishly implementing a rural pacification program which is nothing short of savage repression and terror aimed at driving away the people's forces from their rear bases, crushing the revolutionary power apparatus and shoring up the badly battered puppet administrative machine.

During the same period, a grim resistance was put up by the people against rural pacification, for the strengthening and expansion of the people's revolutionary power. According to incomplete figures, with no less than 10 million attendances and the support of the liberation armed forces, they tore down 8,500 "strategic hamlets" and concentration zones and achieved control over another 3,600 hamlets with 3 million inhabitants.

As a result, both aims—consolidation and expansion—have been attained, and the enemy all-out attempts to sap the revolutionary rule baffled. This transparent outcome has supplied an eloquent proof of the identity of mind between the revolutionary power and the people, of the former's ever-deeper roots in the masses who make it a point to defend and extend it.

TWO years of revolutionary power have witnessed giant strides of our effort against US aggression, for national salvation.

In the military field, *the PLAF, an invincible army with three categories of forces, have become ever stronger and more successful. They have been making persevering exertions, mounting uninterrupted offensives all over the three strategic areas, and with patience and stamina, concerting their actions with popular simultaneous uprisings. In two years, they have registered achievements unprecedented in their history. In the flush of their past successes, they have inflicted initial setbacks on "Vietnamization." In face of hard tests, the strategic formula of "Vietnamization" — the quintessence of US modern strategics + Saigon ground troops + US support,—has proved a failure. The Saigon forces armed to the teeth and very substantially beefed up has remained an army without a cause to fight for, with a sagging morale, equally ineffective on the defensive or the offensive. As to American support, instead of propping up a collapsing army, it has suffered losses in proportion to its growing size.*

In the political field, *parallel to the country people's safeguarding and strengthening of the revolutionary power, the townsfolk's trepidation has been mounting and making a new advance of special importance. Its characteristic trait is the fact that its actions have been directed against the US policy of aggression, against Nixon's "Vietnamization" and the Thieu-Ky-Khiem troika of traitors. Various social sections have risen up to claim an end to the aggressive war and the formation of a government*

(Continued on page 2)

On the occasion of the International Children's Day (June 1st)

The Little Guerilla

THU stood in the trench, fixing her eyes on the enemy "civil guard" platoon. Suddenly, she almost leaped for joy, the camouflage foliage on her back dancing slightly.

"How fortunate I am, they're taking the road where I've laid the three mines," she told the guerilla chief, without turning her eyes from the enemy.

Tran Thi Thu, 14, joined the guerilla team since 1968. She has round and beautiful eyes but her sight was dimmed by US toxic chemicals. She had applied to join the guerilla team out of deep hatred for the enemy. Unable to fire a gun because of her weak sight, she fought them with mines and spike traps. In her first battle, she killed or wounded seven GIs and two puppet soldiers.

The enemy soldiers were heading towards her mine-field. Covering her face with both hands to contain her emotion, she counted each step of the enemy.

Boom! She held her breath, expecting the second and third explosions... But nothing more came. The panicky soldiers were running helter-skelter into the hamlet, treading even on their buddies' corpses and jumping into thorny bushes. None of them took the path on which the other mines had been laid. Thu dashed forward, trying to pull a "Garant" out from under a heap of six enemy bodies. With the help of the other guerillas, she made a neat haul of all the six carbines.

Infuriated, the enemy soldiers burnt houses in the hamlet and fired at those trying to escape from their burning homes. Seeing the flames, Thu ran back to her own home then already on fire. She disappeared and got out of her burning house a minute later, with a half-burnt bamboo tube. But enemy soldiers bobbed up, closing in on her. She told them proudly:

"Shoot me if you like. I've fulfilled my duty."

The enemy took turns in beating her. One of them said they would throw her into the flames if she did not tell what was in the bamboo tube which none of them dared touch.

"Well, I need not lie to you," she said. "It contains a picture of Uncle Ho. You devils don't touch it with your dirty hands!"

Thu had jealously kept the picture of beloved and respected President Ho Chi Minh for nearly a year. It was presented her when she was awarded the title "Valiant Destroyer of Yanks." On more than ten occasions, the enemy had raided and plundered her village. Yet she had always managed to keep the picture safe.

The mercenaries asked her where she had got the picture. Raising her eyes and looking contemptuously at the enemy, she said:

"All of us Vietnamese children have a picture of Uncle Ho. I forbid you to speak of Uncle Ho."

The brutes pulled her up by the shoulder.

"Won't you speak?"

"Never! Never!"

"Throw her into the fire," bellowed the commander.

All of a sudden, sub-machineguns rattled from behind the bamboo grove beside Thu's house. It was the guerillas. Many enemies fell, writhing on the ground. The others ran for their life, crying for help. Thu was met by the guerillas and people in the hamlet. An old woman held up the guns just captured from the enemy, and said with a broad smile:

"Our little Thu has won! She is very worthy of being a good niece of Uncle Ho."

Thu took out the picture from the bamboo tube. The villagers handed it round, contemplating it with tears in their eyes: "So long as the mountains and forests in Tay Ninh remain, the image of Uncle Ho will remain in our hearts," said a villager.

N.T.

Little girls in Ly Tu Trong School sewing and mending for school-boys

The Invincible Strength...

(Continued from page 1)

without Thieu, Ky and Khiem in Saigon, at the same time as better living conditions and democratic freedoms. The urban movement which has attracted popular masses is a broad front of action rallying workers and labouring people, students, intellectuals, businessmen, religious believers, political figures, Saigon MPs...

Meanwhile, revolutionary mass forces have been growing. The liberation organizations more solid with every passing day, have become steady props for the revolutionary power in the implementation of the PRG policies and 12-point program of action as well as in the expansion and building of the liberated zone into the immediate rear base of the revolution.

In our liberated zones, *under the revolutionary power, a new life has taken shape, and the foundations of a new regime laid down. The "land to the tiller" watchword has been carried out to the benefit of the peasants. Thanks to the strict leadership and sound guidelines of the revolutionary power, the people of the liberated areas, braving daily and hourly bombings and shellings, have been making the most of farming techniques, restoring to cultivation fallow lands, clearing fresh ones and practising intensive culture, thereby boosting agricultural production to meet the increasing needs of the resistance war and raise their living standard.*

Along with economic development and the fostering of the people's forces with a view to the triumph of the protracted resistance war, government organs at all levels have been seeing to the organization and direction of cultural, educational and medical work. In this respect, steady progress has been scored. Special attention has been paid to eradicating deep-rooted backward customs exploited by the enemy for their own ends: consequently a gradual change has been brought to the social fabric in the liberated zones which sharply contrasts with that in the occupied areas.

Internationally, *the credit of the PRG has been continuously on the increase. A people's support Viet Nam front spearheaded against US aggression has emerged, and been giving political and moral backing as well as material assistance to the people of South Viet Nam, the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government. It is a source of fresh strength, a valuable contribution to the great successes of the South Vietnamese people and at the same time an unmistakable recognition of the legal and genuinely representative character of the PRG. It constitutes also a major gain of the South Vietnamese people, of the NFL and PRG in the pursuance of a foreign policy of peace and neutrality, of its sound position and goodwill regarding the settlement of the South Vietnamese problem.*

THE above-mentioned performance is still not proportionate to the demands of a new social order. However, given the war, the enemy vicious schemes and the only two years of existence of the revolutionary rule, it can testify to the strenuous efforts and tremendous headway made by the South Vietnamese under the people's power.

The latter's rapid progress, consolidation and vigorous advance has been possible thanks to the sagacious political, military and diplomatic lines of the NFL and PRG. These have constantly associated the building of political forces with that of the liberation armed forces, the development of revolutionary action in the occupied areas with construction, defence and development of the free areas in all fields as well as the ceaseless reinforcement of the bases, the direct rear of the people's war. By closely combining political, military and diplomatic actions, the PRG has led the South Vietnamese from one success to another.

The NFL and PRG line is the prime factor accounting for those remarkable accomplishments which have brought to the fore the prestige and solidarity of the revolutionary power under the NFL leadership.

They have demonstrated, first and foremost, that the establishment of the revolutionary power has most relevantly answered to the urgent needs of the revolution and social development in South Viet Nam. It is for this reason that over the past two years, despite the enemy's frantic attempts to undermine it, the budding revolutionary power has managed to survive and grow up steadily. This is in itself an achievement a glowing historical reality bearing out the strong vitality, great impact and invincible strength of the people's rule.

THE seizure of power implies a process of gruelling struggle and great sacrifices. To defend, strengthen and develop it is one other complex revolutionary undertaking, which would not be brought to fruition were it not for the backing of the people, their participation in its consolidation, their safeguarding it with force of arms, and their implementation of its policies.

It is therefore no accident that, on the other hand, the Saigon administration has become ever more shaky and rotten in spite of the Americans' exertions to beautify and bolster it up. That it will eventually collapse and make room for a revolutionary power is as certain as day follows night, since nothing can save an administration that owes its existence to an aggressor's money and bayonet. A tool of "Vietnamization," the Thieu-Ky-Khiem administration neither represents the people nor enjoys their trust. Running counter to their aspirations and feelings, and to the needs of social development, its survival cannot but bring upon them great disasters. That is precisely the reason for their resolve to remove it.

TO seize power constitutes a victory for the revolution. To build and strengthen that power in all fields remain a still greater victory of profound revolutionary significance. The South Vietnamese revolution which has unequivocally won objective with the existence, consolidation and development of the revolutionary power system. With a strong power, the South Vietnamese revolution holds an important factor to proceed toward complete victory.

The South Vietnamese people heartily hail the miraculous growth of the revolutionary power. Overjoyed and proud of the part of road already traversed, we are resolved to forge ahead. Holding firm our guns in the defence of the revolutionary power, we are convinced that the revolution in South Viet Nam will make giant strides forward.

SOUTH VIET NAM

FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOVEMENT FOR THE AUTONOMY OF THE HIGH PLATEAUX NATIONALITIES

DR Nguyen Huu Tho, Chairman of the Presidium of the South Viet Nam NFL Central Committee, and President Huynh Tan Phat of the PRG of the Republic of South Viet Nam, have sent a message to the people, cadres and armymen of various nationalities in the High Plateaux on the 10th founding anniversary of the Movement for the Autonomy of the High Plateaux Nationalities.

The letter warmly commended the Highlanders' traditional solidarity and gallantry and tremendous achievements as a splendid contribution to the entire people's struggle against the US aggressors for national salvation.

It called on the High Plateaux people, cadres and armymen to continue their magnificent tradition, step up their widespread offensives and uprisings, wipe out bigger enemy military forces, defend and enlarge the liberated areas, and keep up and broaden their right to be masters of the mountainous region. It exhorted them to foil the enemy impress, herding of people, money grabbing and exploitation, expose their demagogy and bribery, and endeavour to promote production so as to improve their living standards and help the war of resistance.

On this occasion, Ibih Aleo, President of the Movement for the Autonomy of the High Plateaux Nationalities and Vice-Chairman of the Presidium of the NFL Central Committee, also issued an appeal.

After a brief review of the all-sided performance of the High Plateaux people and army in the past 10 years, he said: "The period of slavery and ignorance is gone. The High Plateaux people are raising high their heads. With their revolutionary deeds, they have warned the US imperialists that the fate of all their aggressive schemes is sealed."

"As the High Plateaux people are celebrating the 10th founding anniversary of the Movement for Autonomy and the people throughout the country are commemorating the 81st birth anniversary of President Ho Chi Minh," the letter stressed, "the more grateful we feel to him, the firmer grows our resolve to fulfil his supreme wish, that is to determinedly fight the US aggressors till complete victory."

GRAND MEETING MARKS
PRESIDENT HO CHI MINH's BIRTH ANNIVERSARY

A grand meeting was held on May 18, 1971 in a liberated area of South Viet Nam by the Central Committee of the National Front for Liberation and the Viet Nam Alliance of National, Democratic and Peace Forces, the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the Advisory Council of the PRG for the 81st birth anniversary of the late President Ho Chi Minh.

On behalf of the meeting's presidium, Huynh Tan Phat, President of the PRG of the RSVN, delivered an important speech. He outlined the big gains recorded by the South Vietnamese army and people in the past two years' acting upon President Ho Chi Minh's last directions. The President warmly commended the rural people's valiant fight against the enemy "pacification" and the urban population's stirring drive against the US and Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique, and assessed the setbacks of Nixon's "Vietnamization" of the war.

"This is the second time," he added, "we celebrate the birth anniversary of him who is no more. But we still feel him constantly at our side, thoughtfully and gently guiding us, because his life, cause and name have been woven into the fabric of our nation and people and of our rivers and mountains. He will live for ever in our present generation and in the generations to come. Looking back at our past struggle under President Ho Chi Minh's leadership, we realize ever more clearly that the longer we fight, the stronger we are and the bigger our successes. This is because as we fight our ranks swell and we have more friends and less foes. As for the enemy, the longer they fight, their ranks will be ever more narrowed down, neutralized, disintegrated and isolated. The key to success is that we have been acting in conformity with President Ho Chi Minh's teaching: 'Unity, Unity and Great Unity,' which will be engraved for ever on our hearts..."

After calling on the entire army and people in South Viet Nam to strengthen solidarity, step up the struggle in all fields to defeat the US "pacification" and "Vietnamization" and the "Nixon doctrine," President Huynh Tan Phat concluded: "Today, in South Viet Nam blazing with the flame of the resistance against the US aggressors for national salvation, while celebrating President Ho Chi Minh's 81st birth anniversary, we cannot help being deeply moved when remembering his profound affection for and confidence in this beloved 'Bulwark of the Fatherland'... The more we think of his love for South Viet Nam, the more we are sorry not to have been able to drive out the aggressors and welcome our Old Father here to fulfil our keenest desire and realize his most earnest longing. But the more we regret, the deeper our hatred for the cruel and obdurate invaders and traitors, the more resolute we are to wipe out the enemy, to translate into reality President Ho Chi Minh's supreme wishes "to liberate South Viet Nam, defend the North and achieve peaceful national reunification."

Speaking next, representatives of mass organizations, political parties and people's liberation armed forces voiced profound gratitude to President Ho Chi Minh and their firmest resolve to carry out his last instructions, unite around the South Viet Nam NFL Central Committee and the PRG, contribute to foiling Nixon's "Vietnamization," liberate South Viet Nam, defend the North and reunify the country.

Commemorative meeting for the founding anniversary of the RSVN PRG in liberated zone

Press review:

SAIGON REGIME: A TOTALITARIAN, CORRUPT ADMINISTRATION IN FOREIGN PAY

Editor's Note—*The US President is desperately clinging to the Saigon administration and trying to prettify it with a veneer of "democracy," "legality," "constitutionality".... with a view to using it as a tool for the implementation of "Vietnamization."*

Below is some press opinions about it:

TOTALITARIAN, PUPPET-LIKE AND DIRTY

"... The executive in the South (Saigon administration — *Ed.*) has been behaving like an absolute ruler. It wants, and has proved that it has, the monopoly to make laws, draw up the budget, institute taxes and interpret the constitution." "To all appearances, this so-called elected body is a giant scarecrow planted in the nationalist (Saigon — *Ed.*) field which will collapse at the first storm... (Statement by a "representative" published in the *Tin Sang* (Morning News) paper on March 16, 1970).

"On legislative matters, President Thieu has hamstrung the National Assembly with his shady deals... (*Tin Sang*, June 10, 1970).

"As there is no willing cooperation between the three bodies (legislative, executive and judicial), one witnesses corruption, contempt for oneself and for the regime. Then interests clash, mutual disdain sets in, denunciations are lodged, abuses are exchanged, and the tussle begins. (Opinion of a Saigon "representative" published in the *Cong Luan* (Public Opinion) on February 22, 1970).

"Here (in the US-Saigon zone) graft has become a great industry with a built-in system. It is no more an individual vice. The exploitation of man is too blatant, shameless and odious for a man with any shred of conscience left to bear."... "Here those who encourage graft and protect it, who put government offices on sale, who buy over followers to create factions, are precisely those in power who use it to exploit those under their rule (*Cong Luan*, February 22, 1970).

AN ULCER-CORRODED REGIME

"For many years social ulcers have become a national concern. They are war, corruption, political speculation, subservience to a foreign power. They have been thriving on the blood of the Vietnamese nation, building up power, organizing crime, and denying fundamental freedoms to the 17 million South Vietnamese thus deprived of their elementary rights." (*Cong Luan*, May 29, 1970).

ALL POWER TO THE AMERICANS

Wrote the *Tin Sang* of April 1970: "South Viet Nam society has become a sink of vice and corruption since the massive influx of GIs which has triggered economic disruption, soaring living costs, family upheavals... The Saigon administration has been rigged up by the Americans who on the whole have had their decisive say over the past ten years. Every cabinet reshuffle, every scourge for our country has stemmed from there. Hence the appearance of armchair politicians, licentious and knavish, fond of foreign (US-*Ed.*) hand-outs and indifferent to popular misery. Everything is imported, everything is controlled by the dollar. A parasitic life is threatening South Viet Nam..."

Senator S. Symington was right is saying: "According to me, if we abandon Viet Nam, the present government will collapse like a house of cards." Thus was also the view of Senator Russell: "I think they have understood that they will not stand on their feet 15 minutes without our help."

A GLORIOUS LANDMARK

IN face of a people's war brought by 14 million patriots to a degree so far unknown in history, the attempt of the US imperialists to use a huge military buildup and up-to-date war materials short of nuclear weapon to bring the South Vietnamese people to their knees has come to grief. Diehard and bold, the reactionary forces of US imperialism of which Nixon is the epitome, do not readily give up their truculent dream and still hope to enslave the South Vietnamese people by their "Vietnamization" policy.

Due to his setbacks on the battlefield and his political isolation at home and abroad, Nixon has spawned that teratogenic "Vietnamization" which bears in itself the seed of defeat. Facts in South Viet Nam have corroborated this.

The South Vietnamese people have been assigned by history the task of beating the US aggressors until they have had enough.

Over the past two years, under the sound leadership of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation, the South Vietnamese have been driving the aggressors into a blind alley.

THE skilful onsets launched by the South Vietnamese people early in the Mau Than (1968) spring were a dazzling milestone marking a high peak in the development of the offensive strategy: all-out, unremitting and concerted attacks in the three strategic areas, full development of the political and armed forces, close coordination between various striking forces, and various fighting methods, generation of a new resultant having a high combat efficiency, ingenious application of all favourite operational forms: now concentration of attacks on the enemy rear bases, now spreading our forces to harass the enemy communication lines, now interception of "sweeps," "rescue parties" and clearing operations, etc. Coordinating operations of various sizes, the PLAF have been hammering relentlessly at the GIs as well as Saigon troops, wiping out and wearing down the enemy and destroying their war means and logistics. In the past two years, the South Vietnamese have put out of action over one million US, Saigon and satellite troops, destroyed over thirty thousand military vehicles and aircraft of various types. In various daring and clever actions, they have thwarted all the defensive tactics used by Abrams on the South Viet Nam battlefield such as "defence in depth" and "remote defence" to cope with PLAF onslaughts, reduce GI casualties and make it possible for the puppet troops to carry out "mopping-up" and encroaching operations, pacification and concentration of the population to serve "Vietnamization." The miring down of the US and Saigon quislings in Cambodia and their debacle in Southern Laos have been obviously unable to extricate "Vietnamization" from its difficulties: the Saigon soldiers were only sent to their death, US casualties increased and "Vietnamization" was brought close to the brink of the abyss of failure.

Firmly confident in the invincibility of their people's war, in their strategy and tactics, in their fighting capacity, over the past two years, the South Vietnamese people have closely coordinated their all-sided offensives on the military and political front and in agitation among enemy troops. In the flush of their successes, they have been promoting their offensive strategy, encirclement and harassment of the enemy in the three strategic areas: the urban centres, the hilly regions and the plains; they have been closely synchronising the operations of the three categories of arms with mass uprisings, disrupting the adverse battle array and causing heavy enemy losses in manpower, so that their pacification programs have successively met with setbacks and had to be altered constantly. The enemy have got enmeshed in a wide stangle of guerilla warfare.

UNDER the Nixon administration, the US expeditionary forces and quislings have barbarously cracked down on the revolutionary movement in South Viet Nam. Their crimes which have been piling up and dwarfing anything the Hitlerites ever did, are aimed at emasculating this movement to win some sort of victory. Considering the number of operations launched, the quantity of hardware and toxic chemicals used and the magnitude of the devastation, the US aggressors believed that their opponent was exhausted and incapable of mounting major and long-term offensives.

But realities on the South Viet Nam battlefield have upset their calculations. The Western press and various American fact-finding missions have recognized that the Viet Cong attacks have never been reduced but going on instead with increased vigour, relentlessness and duration. The PLAF have in fact grown in size and quality and have made further substantial progress in combat efficiency. They have wiped out a great amount of enemy strength but have been able to preserve and replenish their own forces. Over the last few years, the US and quislings have made the greatest war efforts but had to admit bitterly that the Viet Cong are still in good fighting trim. An ex-Under Secretary of Defense has aptly remarked that the strategy of the revolutionary forces is based on their possibility of enduring hardships. He said that the US believed that the havoc wrought by the war would compel the opponent to terminate it, but the latter just challenged the US by his willingness to make every sacrifice.

The ultimate defeat of the US imperialists in South Viet Nam is left in no doubt. President Nixon's "Vietnamization" is basically a utopia (*New York Times*, Feb. 21, 1971). The "campaign for the people" launched in the closing months of 1970 has confirmed its bankruptcy even in the Saigon streets (*Washington Star*, Aug. 13, 1970). Like a man who quenches his thirst with hemlock, Nixon has extended the war to the whole of Indochina, but the more he tries to carry on his "Vietnamization" — now his "Indochinization" —, the greater are his difficulties and quandary.

Thrashed in Viet Nam, Nixon brazenly brought the war to Cambodia and Laos. The result was that the Saigon troops were heavily depleted and Indochina was turned into a battlefield against the US. According to the *New York Times*, because "Vietnamization" did not yield the expected result, President Nixon was obliged to expand the war and embarked headlong into a desperate adventure in the hope of postponing the date of his "ruin," and this ruin has been brought nearer by the disaster of Operation Lam Son 719 which came rather sooner for "Vietnamization" than the Spring 1968 staggering blows at the "limited war."

IN the past two years, on the long road to national liberation, the South Vietnamese people have put up a persevering and successful resistance. They have overcome all obstacles. Together with twenty million of their Northern fellow-countrymen, they always keep in mind President Ho Chi Minh's supreme message: "The war of resistance against US aggression may drag on. Our fellow-countrymen may have to face new sacrifices of life and property. Whatever happens, we must keep firm our resolve to fight the US aggressors till total victory."

THANH HONG

In the Cities

• Teachers denounce

On the pretence of improving the living standard of the teachers, the Saigon authorities decided to raise school fees for the 1971-1972 academic year. The Saigon Teachers' General Association and the Saigon Committee To Defend the Teachers and Schools denounced the measure as a scheme to squeeze the students and pupils and drive a wedge between the teaching community and the students and pupils.

• Students in poor-houses

The Committee of Students in Minh Mang Students' Quarter accused the Saigon authorities of having for 5 months deprived 800 boarders of food and monthly allowances, turning the quarter into a poor-house.

• Against students' draft

The Saigon Students' General Association launched a campaign of protest against "the school military training to be carried out during the next summer vacation." It called on the students in Hue, Dalat and Can Tho to join in the struggle. The Saigon students charged the Thieu clique with wanting to turn them into mercenaries in US pay rather than nation builders.

• Two main questions

On May 15, Mrs Ngo Ba Thanh, President of the "Women's Association for the Right To Live" in Saigon released a letter to the US Senate Foreign Relations Committee denouncing the US war policy in Viet Nam. The letter said: "The restoration of peace is bound to the total withdrawal of US and other foreign troops from South Viet Nam and the formation of a government really representing the aspirations of the South Vietnamese people."

By order of Thieu, the Saigon police arrested those distributing copies of the letter.

o The press muzzled

On May 8, the Saigon Press Council issued a communique strongly protesting against the Thieu, Ky and Khiem clique which had "arbitrarily confiscated papers and reviews," even a paper carrying a statement by a "Senator" of the opposition.

From May 6 to 17, 36 Saigon papers were seized or fined for having printed such remarks as: "Peace can be restored through a peaceful solution and not on the battlefield" (Tin Sang), *"Most of citizens do not support the present regime"* (Dien Tin), *etc.*

HO CHI MINH,

the Truth, Our Hope and Strength

THE South, the beloved half of Viet Nam, has engraved deep on its mind for decades now, the following forcible words of President Ho Chi Minh:

"Our Southern fellow-countrymen are citizens of Viet Nam. Rivers may run dry, mountains wear away, but that truth remains unchanged.

The South is blood of Viet Nam's blood and flesh of her flesh: as long as our land is not reunified, and our fellow-countrymen suffer, I feel no appetite for food and no inclination for sleep."

For over half a century the whole lofty revolutionary work and extraordinary life of President Ho Chi Minh were closely associated with the liberation of the South and the reunification of the country. To deserve somewhat his immense service, over the past twenty-five years, the South has been heroically and successfully resisting aggressions. President Ho Chi Minh followed step by step the Liberation Revolution in the South. The South is very proud of President Ho Chi Minh, the clearsighted leader of the nation and therefore has, since the very onset of the resistance for national salvation, expressed its sentiment in these famous verses:

In the Plain of Reeds nenuphar is the finest flower,
In the land of Viet Nam Ho Chi Minh's the sweetest name.

(Nam Bo folksong)

Just when the President said, "The image of the South is treasured in my heart," the Southern people saw constantly in their minds' eyes him amidst them, all through the four seasons:

In Winter, the name of Ho Chi Minh gives warmth,
In Spring, it makes the plants sprout and blossom
In Summer, it makes the clouds sail in the red sun
In Autumn, it makes the clouds white and the sky liquid
We follow the red flowers
We follow Uncle Ho
The Western Highlanders follow the Northern Star
The Northern Star twinkles in the sky of the Western High Plateaux,

(Western High Plateaux folksong)

The comparison of President Ho Chi Minh to a "star," the "sun" and "white cloud" is frequently referred to in the poems and songs of the minority people. Nevertheless, these rhetorical figures describing a legendary character never made this supreme national leader into a superman standing above and aloft from the masses. In poetry in South Viet Nam, this artifice is resorted to to chant heroes and heroism. With such images as "sun," "star," and "flame," the South Vietnamese want to highlight among the masses the shining ideal of President Ho Chi Minh and of the authors who depict picturesque scenes:

The epang flower at the water's edge,
Is the most beautiful in the area and the whitest in the village
But cannot stand comparison with the generosity of Uncle Ho.
He teached unity to people everywhere.

(Western High Plateaux folksong)

President Ho Chi Minh urged unity between the majority people and the highlanders, between North and South, between various religions. He said, "Unity, great unity. Success, great success," and he was the personification of such a monolithic solidarity. The Southerners have pledged themselves to follow in his steps, to be worthy of the people living in the Ho Chi Minh era.

Greatly inspired by this epoch, a young poet has written the following:

Fortunate citizens who were given the opportunity to see Uncle Ho
Whose carriage called to mind that of the Hung founding fathers
Four thousand years it has taken us to achieve today
Today – the Ho Chi Minh era (1)

The history of Viet Nam is marked by a succession of military exploits. Visiting the Kings Hung temple in the last resistance war against the French, President Ho Chi Minh said to the armymen escorting him: "To show our appreciation of the Kings Hung's exertions to build our country, we must defend it at all costs." These words have been inspiring the Liberation Revolution in South Viet Nam as well as the resistance against US aggression. They have been infusing fresh strength into the people, chiefly in case of great danger.

In the condemned cell, at the point of bayonet and before the guillotine,
Tens of thousands of us see you in our imagination
Cheering us up and galvanizing us for the fight
Even though we haven't met you in our life time. (2)

In Long An in May 1960, during the concerted uprisings at M.T. village, an old man captured by the enemy shouted into their faces: "Go away." Since the appearance of President Ho Chi Minh, from North to South, all the Vietnamese are his children and nephews." It was in tribute to President Ho and the courageous village's elder that its name was eventually changed into Ho village.

When the American troops landed in 1965 in a tiny village of Quang Nam province, Choi, an old peasant, planted his knife on the ground and, his eyes flashing hatred, said to the aggressors: "This land belongs to President Ho Chi Minh, to Viet Nam!" When the Yankees set fire to his hut, he yanked out his knife and gave one of them a slash in the face, and called on his men: "Let's wipe out all the American aggressors!" His exhortation mingled with the war cries of all our people who rose up as one man against the invaders.

At Chi Hoa prison in Saigon, Nguyen Van Troi's last words were:

Ho Chi Minh!
Ho Chi Minh!
Long live Ho Chi Minh!

In his supreme moment, he called Uncle's name thrice,
and he felt, brought closer to him by his sacrifice (3)

Since then Nguyen Van Troi has become the hero of the young Vietnamese generations of the Vietnamese people.

They turn their love for him into strength and translate it into energetic revolutionary actions. Responding to his appeal, over the last twenty-five years, the 17 million South Vietnamese have confronted the French, then the Americans and their quislings to wrest back independence and freedom. With this grim determination, each of them, when fallen, is replaced by thousands of others, and they have been winning success after success. They have toppled various quisling régimes and knocked out tens of thousands of aggressors. They have consolidated the revolutionary movement and grown up. Most of the South Viet Nam territory has been liberated. All the basic policies put forth by the NFL and PRG have been effectively implemented and become indispensable to the ever improving lot of the people. Land has been returned to the tillers; new schools have been built, songs have been resounding all over the countryside and the revolutionary writ has been running everywhere.

These great achievements were due to the determination of President Ho Chi Minh who never ceased to educate and steel the cadres and population. The South Vietnamese greatly appreciated his work and all longed to see him when he was still alive. When he passed away, they were deeply grieved but were resolved to carry out his sacred testament!

This truth is our hope, our strength; it is purer and more solid than any gem, than the greatest diamond:

We cannot let the enemy hear us weep.
Silent we all look northward
Hitching our packs, we help each other climb the mountain pass,
And hear the quicker stamping of our feet.
Our exploits must blossom in the midst of sorrow
Because Death has sown the seed of Life
Because Uncle Ho has handed to us the banner of victory
And grief has ignited the flame of hatred
When we swing into action.

Ho Chi Minh!
Ho Chi Minh!

Thou art our hope, our strength, the truth, a precious stone, a diamond (4)

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(1) *by Nguyen Khoa Diem.*
(2) *by Giang Nam.*
(3) *by Le Anh Xuan.*
(4) *by Van Luyen.*

English Transmissions of Liberation Radio

From June 1st, 1971, the English Transmissions of LIBERATION RADIO, the Voice of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam are on the air everyday:

at 17.30hrs Indochina Time
or 10.30hrs Greenwich Meantime,

in the 31 and 41 metrebands or on 10.010 and 7.470 kilocycles.

Liberation Radio welcomes all listeners' correspondence, through the *Information Bureau of the Republic of South Viet Nam* 39, Georges Mandel St. Paris (16th), France.

Minister Nguyen Thi Binh visits Hungary

AT the invitation of Mr Janos Peter, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Hungarian People's Republic, Mme Nguyen Thi Binh, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of South Viet Nam, paid an official visit to Hungary from May 12 to 17, 1971.

During her stay in Hungary, Minister Nguyen Thi Binh called on First Secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party Central Committee Janos Kadar and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Revolutionary Workers' and Peasants' Government Jeno Fock and Chairman of the National Council of the Hungarian Patriotic People's Front Gyula Kallai and had a cordial talk with Minister Janos Peter and attended big meetings of solidarity with the peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia and the meeting of the World Peace Council in Budapest.

In his interview with the RSVN Foreign Minister, Mr Janos Kadar, after listening to her report on the present situation in South Viet Nam, said:

"We warmly welcome the successes recorded by the South Vietnamese and Lao peoples on the Highway 9, Khe Sanh and Southern Laos fronts. Once again we reiterate our active solidarity and readiness to give all necessary assistance to the Vietnamese people. We fully support the PRG position concerning a settlement of the South Viet Nam issue. We are firmly convinced that with their determination, the people of South Viet Nam will achieve total victory. The US imperialists have sustained heavy setbacks never known before in Viet Nam. Their piling barbarous crimes cannot intimidate the peoples of Viet Nam and Indochina."

A joint communiqué was issued in Budapest on May 18, 1971 on the visit to Hungary of the RSVN Foreign Minister.

It said, in the talk between the two Ministers:

"The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of South Viet Nam warmly hailed the great achievements gained by the Hungarian people in the building and defence of their socialist country. She wished the Hungarian people many still greater successes in the fulfilment of the Fourth Five-Year Plan. She also expressed sincere thanks to the Hungarian Government and people for their wholehearted and continuous assistance to the South Vietnamese people's struggle against the US imperialists, for national salvation."

After warmly hailing the recent successes of the South Vietnamese people and the Indochinese peoples and sternly condemning the prolongation and expansion of war and accumulation of crimes by the US against the South Vietnamese people and other peoples of Indochina, the joint communiqué continued:

"The Hungarian side considered that the only sensible way for the US to get out of its long, costly, unpopular and immoral war in South Viet Nam is to accept the reasonable proposals of the RSVN PRG as a basis for a fair settlement of the South Viet Nam issue. Peace can be restored only after the total and unconditional withdrawal of the US troops from South Viet Nam and the establishment of a provisional coalition government widely representing the South Vietnamese people and approving independence, peace, neutrality and democracy. In the immediate future, the US must set a reasonable deadline for the withdrawal of all its troops from South Viet Nam to create favourable conditions for the progress of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam."

After demanding the US government to abide by its decision to halt all bombing, strafing and reconnaissance activities on the territory of the DRVN and voicing resolute support for the patriotic struggle of the Lao and the Cambodian peoples against the US aggressors, the joint communiqué said:

"The two Ministers held that peace and security of all nations could not be guaranteed so long as the US aggression against the Indochinese countries was not stopped.

The RSVN Foreign Minister supported the efforts of the Government of the Hungarian People's Republic in its struggle to maintain peace and security in Europe and the world over.

Loyal to the policy of national unity against imperialism, the two Ministers reiterated their governments' full support to the fight of the Asian, African, Arab and Latin American peoples against imperialism, old and neo-colonialism and racial discrimination, for independence, freedom and social progress."

A Village Headwoman

I followed a liaison boy along gardens, rows of bamboos and casuarina trees, ripening rice crops past South, North and East hamlets of P.T. village (Thua Thien province) to meet Mrs Cam, chairman of its revolutionary people's committee.

We ran across primary school-children with plaited-straw hats and first-aid kits, who were after sparrows on the trees with their calapults or golden butterflies on the roadsides with their hats. After walking past a line of trenches, we crossed a bamboo bridge spanning a stream which meandered around a white-sanded hill. At the foot of the latter stood a palm-roofed house with many people going in and out: the seat of the village committee. There I was greeted by its deputy-head who told me that its chairman was busy finishing a report on the last two years' achievements to submit to the villagers that night.

The office was closed but Mrs Cam stayed on to discuss with the guerilla chief security precautions for the meeting.

Beyond the Vinh Dinh river machinegun and cannon reports, were heard. The enemy in V. N. post was exchanging fire with the guerillas who were keeping them off the ripening crops.

IN the light of the first-quarter moon the villagers had gathered on the grassy field lying from the hill foot to the stream.

In concise words the chairman of the revolutionary people's committee outlined the gains in the fighting and production over the past two years.

The villagers had destroyed two enemy blockhouses, fought off 60 raids, wiped out two platoons of wicked thugs in charge of "rural pacification" and maintained their control right in an enemy key area.

They had built two dikes to protect their fields from sea-water, grown two crops on 400 hectares, safely preserved their harvests and cattle, and paid their contributions to the national defence.

Classes had been opened for school-age children, 80 per cent of them now attending school. Illiteracy had been liquidated among all cadres and guerillas. The people had taken to a simple way of life, diligent, thrifty, honest and altruistic.

Forty medicine chests — one for each group of families — and eight first-aid stations had been set up.

Four hundred youths had joined the people's armed forces and credited with many feats of arms, thirty of them having been awarded decorations. The village guerillas alone had successfully beaten off over 30 enemy sweeps and prevented

him from harming the people and the crops. More than fifty families with members drafted in the puppet armed forces had managed to get back over 40 of them.

Everybody had participated in digging trenches, erecting a combat village and contributing materials to the local arms-workshop. Old folks had taken the lead in planting trees. Fighters' mothers had set on foot a rice-collecting drive.

After Mrs Cam's warmly applauded report, the amateur dance and song troupe of the village performed before the people. Many inhabitants of neighbouring villages also were in the audience, among them armymen with rifles. The soirée was interrupted by alerts caused by enemy air patrol flights, but it was very enjoyable for the show depicted the villagers' real life, though not with a consummate art.

Two years had elapsed since Mrs Cam was elected head of P.T. village. I had met her several times at the meetings of district cadres.

"My husband," she told me, "died in the provincial prison nine years ago, when I had just had my second baby Dung, who is now in the first form. The first one is an eleven-year-old girl called Mai, now in the third form.

As I am too busy, they are looked after by their grand-mother whom they help with the household chores. They both do well at school and know many songs broadcast by Liberation Radio."

Then, stopping her needlework — she was sewing clothes for her children —, she pointed to a place named X. on the map of P.T. village and went on: "This was a thriving market town, but as you may have noticed when coming here, it is now pocked with large bomb-craters in which we raise fish and grow lotus. Also due to enemy air raids the children have to have their classes underground and I am afraid that my girl will get shortsighted!" Her finger running to another place called 4, she said, "These fields with an excellent kind of rice had laid waste for over ten years because the enemy had destroyed the dike which contained the invasion of sea-water. Last year we managed to repair it but enemy armoured cars rushed in and we had to resist three days and pushed four vehicles down the stream before we could till the fields. Apart from agricultural production, we are also engaged in fishing for three out of our eight hamlets are fishermen's. However, enemy warships often shelled the coast, one night firing up to 100 shots which killed four old people and two young ones, we sailed out and protested and they had to stop harassing our hamlets.

"As headwoman of a village I feel that Ut Tich* was quite right when saying, 'If we don't go at the enemy, they will go at us, so we must be the first to attack..'."

Glancing at her watch, she stood up and slung an M.16 on her shoulder.

"Rice is ripening," she said. "I have to go to the fields to devise a harvesting plan."

A rifle on one shoulder and an axe on the other, the slender and long-lashed village chief nimbly walked with some peasants along the fields.

From the seat of the village committee I followed her sharp steps from North Hamlet to the Vinh Dinh river where the ocean of rice seemed to be level to the enemy blockhouses with corrugated iron roofs. And I had the impression that the woman was treading on them.

Mrs Cam, the chairman of the revolutionary people's committee, was advancing at a brisk pace.

MINH PHUONG

* A South Viet Nam heroine

IN BRIEF

Sweden: During the Viet Nam Week, April 13-19, 32 demonstrations and marches by dozens of thousands of people, and 180 gatherings took place in 150 cities, towns and townships. Up to April 22, the fund raised for the South Viet Nam NFL exceeded by 8,953 crowns the 4,000,000 target planned for May 1.

Finland: 17 progressive mass organizations held a Viet Nam Support Week from April 18 to 25. Thousands of people in Helsinki, at Lahti, Tampere and Kaskinen met to hear reports on the fighting and successes of the Indochinese peoples and manoeuvres of the US imperialists to prolong their aggressive war.

Norway: A Viet Nam Solidarity Week (April 19-25) was kept in 55 places in the country. In meetings and other solidarity actions, peace and progressive forces demanded that "US imperialism pull out of Indochina," that Norway recognize the DRVN Government and the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government, and sever relations with the Saigon quisling regime.

Denmark: Ending the Viet Nam Solidarity Week (April 17 – 24), over 20,000 Danes from various parts of the country gathered in a grand rally in Copenhagen, against American aggression in Viet Nam and the aggressive NATO headed by the US.

France: In response to the appeal of 40 political, TU and social organizations, several dozens of thousands of people in Paris and other large cities such as Marseilles, Lyons, Toulouse, Le Havre, Lorient and Montluçon, staged parades, teach-ins, film shows and exhibitions to back the Indochinese peoples' struggle. Their two solidarity weeks ended on May 9.

Britain: On May Day a demonstration took place in London to protest US aggression against Viet Nam and demand US troop withdrawal. On April 24 and 25 other protests had been organized on Trafalgar Square, at Kent, in Scotland, etc., by progressives. They condemned Nixon's prolongation and expansion of the war in Indochina and demanded that he fix a date-limit for US troop withdrawal, and that the British Government refrain from supporting Washington's Indochina policy.

West Berlin and West Germany: On May 15, youth and older people demonstrated in West Berlin and Frankfurt, chanting "Yankees out of Viet Nam." They hurled bottles at GIs marching past with British and French troops in their annual parade.

Canada: Demonstrations against US aggression in Viet Nam occurred in many urban centres such as Ottawa, Montreal and Quebec.

Australia: Thousands of students, war veterans and people of other social segments staged marches and meetings in protest against the Australian government's support to US Indochina policy and especially the sending of Aussies to fight in Viet Nam.

New Zealand: On April 30 evening, a 10,000 strong parade took place in Auckland. The marchers carried slogans flaying US aggression in Viet Nam and the commitment of New Zealand troops to this "dirty war."

Lebanon: On April 24 American and Palestinian students of the University of Beirut, picketed the US Embassy and set fire to a US flag in protest against Washington's Indochina policy.

Zambia: American nationals gathered in front of the US Embassy in Lusaka and demanded that the Nixon administration withdraw all US troops from South Viet Nam and put an end to their support for the Thieu-Ky-Khiem puppet clique in Saigon.

Ecuador: On April 12, thousands of students assembled in Quito and at Guayaquil, holding high anti-US slogans: The assassins of Milton Rayes are also the murderers of the Vietnamese people.

Venezuela: On May 6, young war protesters staged a demonstration in front of the US Embassy in Caracas. They distributed leaflets saying: "US out of Viet Nam," "Long live the valiant Vietnamese people!"

THAT DAY

in LUSAKA...

THE private plane of President Nyerere of Tanzania landed at Lusaka airport resplendent with flags and light. It brought the delegation of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government to the Third Summit Conference of Non-Aligned Countries in which 67 of these took part.

The Republic of Zambia was the remotest land in the austral hemisphere where Viet Nam's representatives had ever set foot. The path to Africa's new friendship was thus opened to fighting Viet Nam.

Sun-scorched grass lands lay on both sides of the road leading to the capital-city. They exhaled a searing heat, that of equatorial regions. Most remarkably, however, out of this yellow mass, here and there stood thickets of indigenous trees, shady banians – and, in the distance, flamboyants and other trees – all this vegetation so familiar to us South Vietnamese.

On the roadside flags were fluttering in the wind by the side of slogans extending Lusaka's welcome to friends from far-off lands.

We found ourselves at the Southernmost outpost of peoples fighting for national independence and human dignity. Just on the other side of the frontier not far away is the Kingdom of arch racists – South Africa – where our black brothers are suffering from the worst racial segregation on earth. Zambia also shares common borders with the homelands of reputed guerillas fighting against the Portuguese colonialists and reactionaries allied to the British and US imperialists: Mozambic, Angola, Malawi, Zimbabwe.

A report carried by Lusaka dailies arrested the attention of all delegations: Mme Nguyen Thi Binh, Foreign Minister of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government, had been invited to address the conference plenary session.

That morning, the PRG representative raised her voice – the voice of a people who had been battling without respite during a quarter-century for their independence and freedom, and also for the freedom of other nations, for justice on our planet. The Mulunghusi Conference Hall suddenly resounded with long ovations when this freedom woman fighter stood up and walked round half the hall toward the rostrum near the presidium.

"She read somewhat quickly her speech in French, restraining her emotion as the audience listened to her. The lobby reserved for journalists, where usually people walk up and down, was perfectly silent. There was only the humming of cinema and TV cameras busy at work." (Retranslated from the *Zambia Daily Mail*, the local paper with the largest circulation).

Attending that historic session, aside from comrades-in-arms, were not few delegates from countries still under considerable pressure from old and new colonialists. Nevertheless, when South Viet Nam's envoy was speaking, an absolute silence reigned, ostensibly out of respect for the combatants of the National Front for Liberation and the Provisional Revolutionary Government, for South Vietnamese men and women to whom, in this grand hall, words of sincere admiration had been addressed many a time.

A delegate stated: "Never before, in so short a period, have a people made so many sacrifices for, and contributions to, the national liberation movement. Never before has such a small land given birth to so many heroes..." Another representative said: "If we are able to sit in this conference hall as representatives of sovereign countries it is thanks partly to the sacrifices of the Vietnamese people who have paid very high price for the cause of liberty. We should not forget that the Dien Bien Phu victory marked a turning point in the liberation process of oppressed peoples. The Vietnamese people who have brought about that epoch-making event and gone through twenty years of uninterrupted war, still continue to hold high the torch of liberty, resisting the world's most powerful imperialism; the Vietnamese people incarnate what is noblest in mankind."

Mme Nguyen Thi Binh evoked the monstrous crimes perpetrated by the American aggressors, and when she said that the tonnage of bombs dropped in Viet Nam equalled 700 A-bombs dumped on Hiroshima one felt that the audience held back their breath. A problem of conscience seemed to be posed to everyone present. Gently and unassumingly, she pictured the valiant fight of her fellow-countrymen: urban people's confrontations with the police armed to the teeth, peasants' uprisings to pull down concentration centres dubbed "new-life hamlets," liberation forces' burning of adverse garrisons. Sweet as it was, Mme Nguyen Thi Binh's voice had the strength of righteousness, of a people whom no power can submit, who are steadily, confidently forging ahead to get the upper hand of the cruellest enemy of mankind.

Those who, with their own blood, had fought or were fighting for their countries' independence, or harboured hatred against imperialist oppression or outrage, undoubtedly shared the feelings spelled out by the South Vietnamese delegate. Her simple and modest bearing increased the respect of her listeners for her fatherland. One paper wrote: "Beyond doubt, in listening to Mme Binh's stirring speech, virtually all the audience of that session fully endorsed her verdict against American aggression in Southeast Asia, and urgently demanded that the Southeast Asian peoples be given the right to decide their own destinies."

Mme Nguyen Thi Binh ended her speech amidst prolonged applause. Representatives on the liberation movements in Mozambic, Angola and South Africa left their seats to hug her. All the delegates turned their eyes to her and wildly cheered, which they did anew when she waved her hand to thank them for their warm reception.

"No head of state or delegate," a press report said, "throughout the Lusaka Conference, was welcomed as Mme Binh, the Foreign Minister of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam." A Zambia newspaper illustrated its report of the plenary session with a picture of her and this banner headline on its second page: Mulunghusi's applause to the South Viet Nam valiant fighter.

In the refreshment room, the Presidents of the Congo (B), Sudan, Mauritania, Yugoslavia, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia, the Republic of Central Africa, the Emperor of Ethiopia, the Vice-President of Irak, the Prime Ministers of Ceylon and India, and other distinguished delegates came to shake hands with Minister Nguyen Thi Binh and exchanged a few words with her. "The untold sufferings of the peoples of Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos should be ended," Emperor Haile Selassie said. "Foreign armed forces should be withdrawn from these countries. Their right to self-determination, their territorial integrity and their independence must be respected by all countries. Don't let us relax our efforts for a moment until those fraternal peoples throw off the colonial yoke." A delegate of Uganda said, "Shaking hands with Vietnamese fighters is the hightest honour I have ever had in my life." A general in uniform, Peru's delegate, greeted Mme Binh with a hand on his chest radiant with decorations. Then came brothers from Cuba, Algeria, Syria, Palestinia, etc., to pour out the feelings of militant solidarity of their countrymen with the Vietnamese people.

In the afternoon, the Conference passed a resolution severely condemning the blatant aggression of American imperialism in South Viet Nam and in Southeast Asia, and urged that US forces pull out of Indochina and all this part of world.

We left Zambia aboard President Nyerere's private plane when Lusaka began to light up. The city with its forest of flags, guards of honour and a large crowd waving to us, gradually disappeared in the darkness. Gazing at the cloudless, starry sky, we thought of new friends already so dear to us, of Asian, African and Latin American fighters marching toward independence and freedom, of black guerillas in the tropics and Arab snipers in the deserts, ready for every sacrifice to recover their lands.

NGUYEN NGOC DUNG

WPC Meeting Supports Indochinese People

THE World Peace Council met in Budapest from May 13 to 16 with the participation of over 800 delegates from 124 countries, 33 international and more than 200 national organizations, reports from Hungary's capital said.

The gathering warmly welcomed Mme Nguyen Thi Binh, Foreign Minister of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, its guest of honour, and the message of greeting from Huynh Tan Phat, President of the PRG of the RSVN.

The meeting passed many important documents: Resolution on the Indochina problem, a Resolution on the US crimes in Indochina and an appeal calling on the whole world to militate for the withdrawal of all American troops by the end of 1971, and a letter to the American people and the participants in the anti-war movement in the USA.

The Resolution recalled the situation in Viet Nam, Cambodia and Laos, and raised the following demands:

On Viet Nam:

— The Nixon administration must fix a time-limit for a prompt withdrawal of all American and other foreign troops from South Viet Nam.

— It must comply with the South Vietnamese people's desire for a government in Saigon without Thieu-Ky-Khiem, favouring peace, independence, neutrality and democracy and ready to engage in serious discussions with the PRG of the RSVN.

— The US must put a total and unconditional end to the reconnaissance flights and other war acts, which violate sovereignty, and threaten the security, of the DRVN.

On Laos:

The Resolution approves the March 6, 1970 5-point political solution of the Lao Patriotic Front which is consistent with the spirit of the 1962 Geneva Agreements on Laos. It welcomes the LPF new initiative on the settlement of the Lao issue in line with the present situation of Laos. The Nixon administration must stop all acts of intervention and aggression in Laos, and first of all it must completely and unconditionally stop the bombing of the Lao territory, immediately cease all violations of, and encroachments against, the areas controlled by the Lao Patriotic Front and ensure the neutrality of the Kingdom of Laos.

On Cambodia:

— The Resolution strongly supports the Cambodian people's just struggle under the leadership of the National United Front of Kampuchea and the Royal Government of the National Union of Cambodia, the sole representative of the Cambodian people in the fight against US aggression.

— It calls on political organizations and peace, justice and freedom-loving organizations the world over to discontinue relations with the rotten Phnom Penh regime, hirelings of the US imperialists.

— It supports the 5-point statement on March 23, 1970 of Cambodian Head of State Norodom Sihanouk.

— It demands that the US, Saigon and Bangkok air forces stop at once the bombing of the Cambodian territory, that the American advisers and military personnel, the Saigon and Bangkok troops withdraw unconditionally and quickly from Cambodia, and that all US and Saigon war provocations against Cambodia be put to an end.

The Resolution also hailed and highly appreciated universal solidarity with, and assistance to, the Indochinese peoples, the American people's anti-war movement in the Spring drive, their action for the repatriation of American troops, and their protest against the US government's policy of racial discrimination and repression.

In the U. S. A.

Indochina War Protest Keeps Mounting

FOLLOWING up the success of the 1971 Spring Anti-War Campaign, broad masses of American people in many parts of the country have been keeping up their actions against the aggressive war in Viet Nam.

On May 15, "US Army Day," several US military bases were picketed by the paraders. They streamed to the entrances of Fort Bragg, Griffin, Westover bases..., and distributed leaflets calling on the GIs to resist war and demanding their immediate withdrawal from Indochina. The US authorities had to interdict to the marchers the approaches of Fort Meed and hundreds of other military bases.

On the same day, thousands of American people at Fayetteville turned out in the streets to press for a stop to the war.

The "Young Voters for Peace," a new organization of American students, has launched throughout the country a signature collection for the rapid repatriation of US troops from Viet Nam.

Also on May 15, the Conference of young workers of the Unified Trade Unions of US Motorcars and Aviation Industries in Chicago and the 67th Congress of the Baptist Religious Sects in Minneapolis adopted a resolution urging Nixon and the US Congress to quickly end the Indochina war.

According to a recent public poll, more than 70 per cent of the population in Fargo and Murhad cities were for the pull-out of all GIs from Indochina by the end of this year.

In Santa Clara, a new movement called "Families of POWs and Men Missing in Action For Peace in Indochina" criticized Nixon for misusing the POW issue to prolong the Indochina war. Representatives of this movement insisted on the immediate withdrawal of American troops from Viet Nam.

Many prominent personalities from US political circles also voiced similar demands.

In Milwaukee, Senators E. Muskie, McGovern, H. Hughes and B. Bayh put out a joint statement, pressing for the bringing home of GIs from Viet Nam. Senator M. Mansfield urged Nixon to fix a deadline for the operation.

19 members of the Republican Party, representing groups of anti-Nixon Republicans throughout the USA, among them P. McCloskey, Rangle and former Senator Goodell, met on May 16 in Washington to stage an open protest against Nixon's policies including that of stubbornly prolonging the Indochina war.

Former US Vice-President H. Humphrey, and George Meany, President of the American Federation of Labour and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO), called for a strengthened alliance between the Democratic Party and US Labour Organizations to defeat Nixon at the 1972 Presidential elections because of his reactionary foreign and home policies.

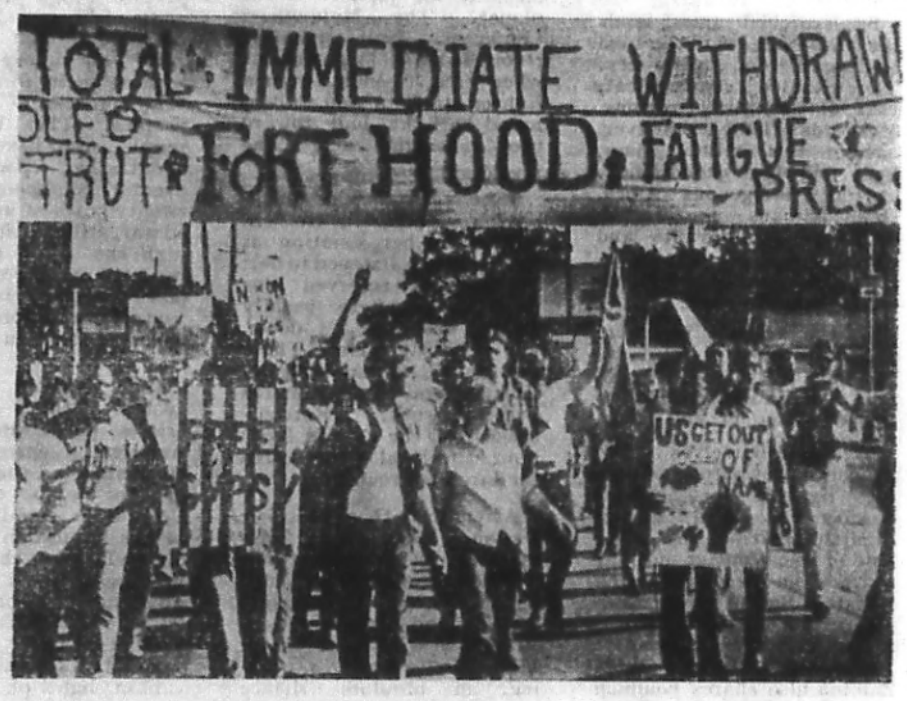
In recent days, Nixon's brutal repression of the anti-war movement in the US has also been exposed by American public opinion.

Senator Birch Bayh pointed out in a statement that police terror against demonstrators in Washington constituted a brazen violation of the US Constitution.

Chief Justice G. Belyon of the District of Columbia who had called at a number of jails where anti-war demonstrators were detained, indignantly bared the harsh and inhuman prison regime there. Several doctors and assistant-doctors in Washington held press conferences to denounce the US ruling circles for preventing them from helping, or giving medical treatment to, the victims of police repression.

Joan Epstein, a leading member of the "Anti-war Days in May" organization in New York, likened the brutalities against detained marchers to Hitlerite cruelties against inmates of concentration camps during World War Two. However, she stressed, despite terror and repression, the masses continue turning out in the streets, and their actions are but initial steps.

The New York branch of the "Women's Strike For Peace" also pointed out that vast majority of the American people urged an immediate end to the Indochina war. No terrorist or repressive acts can prevent anti-war demonstrations from taking place in the US. Concentration camps or police arrest will only give a stronger impulse to the anti-war unrest.



GIs' demonstration in Fort Hood

AFRICA IN STRUGGLE

Angola – *At the end of 1970, the patriotic armed forces put out of action 2,000 mercenaries of Portugal including many officers and gained control over two-thirds of the territory. In the first quarter of 1971, they launched violent attacks on Portuguese troops, wiping out 469 of them.*

Guinea (Bissau) and Cape Verde - *From March 17 to April 3, the patriotic armed forces repeatedly assaulted the Portuguese aggressors, knocking out 200 enemy troops, sinking 6 combat motor launches and destroying 4 aircraft.*

Mozambique – *In 3 days (Dec. 26, 1970, to Jan. 17, 1971), the patriotic armed forces raided several places in Tete, inflicting 34 casualties, blowing up a bridge and destroying 2 military vehicles.*

South Africa – *On March 7, 1971 thousands of people held demonstrations and meetings at Port Elizabeth and the nearby stadium against the reactionary authorities' racist measures and raising of bus fares.*

Algeria – *On April 12, Houari Boumédienne, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council, signed a decree abolishing all foreign oil concessions. The nationalized oil areas are put under the control of the Sonotrach State-run company.*

Libya – *On April 2, the Libyan government demanded that foreign oil companies, most of them American, pay extra oil taxes, thereby increasing yearly the State revenue by 620 million dollars.*

Zambia – *On May 16, 1971, the patriotic armed forces repelled a Portuguese 90-man invading unit from Angola, putting out of action 4 men.*